

For 2008, Rep. Slaughter secured \$500,000 in 2008 for the City of Buffalo small business program. This money helped to further capitalize and expand the Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corporation's (BERC) Micro and Small Business Loan Program, which provides start-up and expansion loans to local entrepreneurs who often have difficulty accessing support through more traditional sources. With this funding, in conjunction with millions in local matching funds, BERC committed to providing 113 new loans, totaling over \$12 million, over the next three years to small businesses for start-ups and expansions.

Rep. Slaughter also secured \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 for the Urban League of Rochester's Business Development Division to provide guidance and assistance to Jefferson Avenue businesses beginning this summer. Ensuring that Jefferson Avenue businesses flourish is just one component of the effort to completely revitalize Jefferson Avenue. Recently, the Jefferson Avenue community came together to identify priorities for how the thoroughfare should look and function. Soon, University of Rochester graduate students will conduct an economic analysis, city-hired consultants will create street and infrastructure designs, and finally, a master revitalization plan will be created and implemented.

Rep. Slaughter has a strong record of supporting small businesses, she has:

- Voted for The Small Business Contracting Program Improvements Act, which expands and updates small business programs for veterans, women, and minorities.
- Voted for the Venture Capital tax exclusion, to encourage investment in small innovative companies.
- Supported the permanent extension and 100 percent tax deductibility of health insurance costs for the self-employed.
- Supported judicial review of federal agency compliance with regulatory flexibility requirements. This will allow small businesses to challenge in court new regulations that put special burdens on small businesses.
- Voted for the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act, which strengthens the rights of small businesses in tax cases and makes the IRS more customer-friendly.

- Voted for the Small Business Job Protection Act to provide \$19 billion in tax and regulatory relief to small businesses.